

## Annunciation Cathedral Sunday Bulletin: March 8, 2015

### SECOND SUNDAY IN THE GREAT LENT: OUR FATHER AMONG THE SAINTS GREGORY, ARCHBISHOP OF THESSALONIKE, PALAMAS

**EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY:** This morning's Epistle Reading is from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Hebrews, chapter 1, verses 10-14 chapter 2, verses 1-3. It is found in our books, pages 140-141.

**Πρὸς Ἑβραίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα, κεφ. 1, ἐδάφ. 10-14, κεφ. 2, ἐδάφ. 1-3:** Κατ' ἀρχάς, Κύριε, τὴν γῆν ἔθεμελίωσας, καὶ ἔργα τῶν χειρῶν σου εἰσὶν οἱ οὐρανοί· αὐτοὶ ἀπολοῦνται, σὺ δὲ διαμένεις· καὶ πάντες ὡς ἱμάτιον παλαιωθήσονται, καὶ ὡσεὶ περιβόλαιον ἐλίξεις αὐτούς, καὶ ἀλλαγήσονται· σὺ δὲ ὁ αὐτὸς εἶ, καὶ τὰ ἔτη σου οὐκ ἐκλείψουσιν. Πρὸς τίνα δὲ τῶν ἀγγέλων εἰρηκέν ποτε, Κάθου ἐκ δεξιῶν μου, ἕως ἂν θῶ τοὺς ἐχθρούς σου ὑποπόδιον τῶν ποδῶν σου; Οὐχὶ πάντες εἰσὶν λειτουργικὰ πνεύματα, εἰς διακονίαν ἀποστελλόμενα διὰ τοὺς μέλλοντας κληρονομεῖν σωτηρίαν; Διὰ τοῦτο δεῖ περισσοτέρως ἡμᾶς προσέχειν τοῖς ἀκουσθεῖσιν, μήποτε παραρρῶμεν. Εἰ γὰρ ὁ δι' ἀγγέλων λαληθείς λόγος ἐγένετο βέβαιος, καὶ πᾶσα παράβασις καὶ παρακοή ἔλαβεν ἔνδικον μισθαποδοσίαν, πῶς ἡμεῖς ἐκφευξόμεθα τηλικαύτης ἀμελήσαντες σωτηρίας; Ἦτις, ἀρχὴν λαβοῦσα λαλεῖσθαι διὰ τοῦ κυρίου, ὑπὸ τῶν ἀκουσάντων εἰς ἡμᾶς ἐβεβαιώθη.

**GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY:** This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according Mark, chapter 2, verses 1-12. It is found in our books on pages 291-293.

**Ἡ σημερινὴ εὐαγγελικὴ περικοπὴ ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Μάρκον, κεφ. 2, ἐδάφ. 1-12, εὐρίσκεται εἰς τὰ βιβλία μας, σελ. 290-292.**

**Today's *Apolytikion* (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone Six (Plagal 2):**

When the angelic powers appeared at your tomb, those who guarded You became as though dead. And, standing by your sepulcher was Mary, seeking your pure and sacred body. You did vanquish Hades and, uncorrupted by its touch, You came unto the Virgin bestowing the gift of life. From the dead You arose, O Lord: we give glory to You.

Ἀγγελικαὶ δυνάμεις ἐπὶ τὸ μνημαῖόν σου, καὶ οἱ φυλάσσοντες ἀπενεκρώθησαν, καὶ ἴστατο Μαρία ἐν τῷ τάφῳ, ζητοῦσα τὸ ἄχραντόν σου Σῶμα. Ἐσκύλευσας τὸν Ἄδην, μὴ πειρασθεὶς ὑπ' αὐτοῦ· ὑπήντησας τῇ Παρθένῳ, δωροῦμενος τὴν ζωὴν. Ὁ ἀναστάς ἐκ τῶν νεκρῶν, Κύριε, δόξα σοι.

**Introduction to Orthodoxy** (*Sundays, 9 a.m., upstairs*). This class is especially intended for those who are thinking about converting to Orthodoxy and for family members and friends who would like to support them on their journey, but it is also open to people who are already Orthodox and who would like to deepen their understanding of their faith. We explore Christian theology and practice through reading selections of Scripture, the Church Fathers, the lives of the Saints, and other texts representative of the Orthodox worldview. These readings are the starting point for our discussions, which aim at clarifying doctrine and worship and helping us to discover (or rediscover), week after week, why we belong in the Church. If you are interested in attending the class, please contact Alexandros Kozák at [orthodoxy@agkozak.com](mailto:orthodoxy@agkozak.com).

**THE LORD'S PRAYER IN SPANISH:** Padre nuestro, que estás en los cielos, santificado sea tu nombre, venga tu Reino, hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo; danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día; perdona nuestras deudas así como nosotros perdonamos a nuestros deudores; no nos dejes caer en la tentación, y líbranos del Mal.

**LOOKING AHEAD, MARCH 25<sup>th</sup> PROGRAM BY THE GREEK SCHOOL:** This will take place in the chapel on Sunday, March 22, at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy.

**TODAY'S *MNEMOSYNA*:** Memorial prayers are being offered for the repose of the soul of Margarita Papapsomas, who fell asleep in the Lord 6 months ago.

**TODAY'S LENTEN RETREAT:** Have you ever wondered about the *komboskini* (prayer rope), what it is, how it came to be, what it has to do with prayer, especially during Great Lent. Well, this morning, you will find out, as the Cathedral hosts a Lenten Retreat entitled "Spiritual Food for Thought: A history of the prayer rope (*komboskini*) in the Orthodox Church." Our speaker is **Fr. Antony Balnaves**. A native of Australia, he converted to Orthodoxy in 1986 and lived for a number of years on Mount Athos. We are honored to have Fr. Antony with us this morning. He will speak right here in the chapel, at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. The program is a part of OIKOS (*Orthodox in Koinonia Outreach Services*). **Dr. Katina Kostoulas** is chair of the Cathedral's retreat program and will be introducing Father Antony.

**BASKETBALL AWARDS LUNCHEON:** Today's Basketball awards luncheon will take place in the Kytherian Room right after Fr. Antony's talk and the distribution of the *antidoron*. It is scheduled to begin at 12:30 p.m.

**ORATORICAL FESTIVAL NEXT SUNDAY:** Next Sunday, March 15, the Annunciation Cathedral will hold its St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival, under the auspices of the Sunday School. Students, grades 4 through high school, will participate. As Sunday, March 15 is also the Sunday of the Veneration of the Cross, we will hear from our children first (in lieu of the regular sermon) and conclude with the procession and veneration of the Cross.

**SERVICES THIS WEEK:** Presanctified Divine Liturgy will be celebrated Wednesday, March 11, 10 a.m., and the Second Salutations Friday, March 13, at 7 p.m. Προηγουμένη, την Τετάρτη, 10 π.μ., Χαίρετισμοί την Παρασκευή, 7 μ.μ.

**YOUR 2015 STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE:** The March *Herald* will feature an honor roll of all who have sent in a 2015 Stewardship pledge. This will give us an opportunity to publicly thank you for making a financial commitment to support the ministries of the parish during 2015. To date, about 250 of you have sent in your 2015 Stewardship. Our mailing list, however, has some 700 names. Our goal is to have all 700 be supporting Stewards of the Cathedral in 2015 (or adjust our mailing list accordingly). Meanwhile, our 2015 Stewardship Campaign continues. We need to get our parish back on track and we appeal to all of you to help in this effort. Putting the parish on a sound financial footing depends on each and every parishioner. Therefore, we exhort you, in the words of Scripture: *Give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.* (2 Cor. 9:7). Please note that your 2015 Stewardship pledge supports the ongoing ministries of the Cathedral. It is separate from the Building Fund, which is used for the rebuilding of the Cathedral. If you have not submitted your 2015 Stewardship and have misplaced your 2015 Stewardship pledge card, all you have to do is ask **Gus Vouchilas**, our Stewardship Committee chair, for another card or, if you prefer, you may obtain one by calling the Cathedral office at 415 864-8000, and one will be mailed to you.

**PARISH COUNCIL COMMITTEES:** At its January 27<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Parish Council appointed the following committee chairs: Stewardship: **Gus Vouchilas**, Capital Campaign: **Tom Nuris**, Retreats: **Dr. Katina Kostoulas**, Technology: **Nick Rally & Deno Konstantinidis**, Pangari: **Dustin Novo**, Coffee hours/Parish Life: **Dr. George Ambus Ambadiotakis**, Strategic Planning: **Dean Nicolacakis**. At its February 24<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Parish Council added a Youth Council, chaired by **Maria & Dean Nicolacakis**, and a Legacy & Endowment Committee, chaired by **Tom Nuris**. If you would like to serve on any of the above committees, please speak to the respective chairs.

**LOOKING FOR COMMITTEE CHAIRS:** Meanwhile, we are looking for Festival chair(s). A major undertaking, the Festival annually accounts for a major portion of the Cathedral's operating budget. More importantly, it fosters community, inviting the community at large to share in our faith and culture. If you think you would like to become a chair or would like to assist, please see either of our clergy or speak with **Chris Kyriacou**, Parish Council President.

**WE MADE IT TO \$1 MILLION AND BEYOND;  
WATCH FOR THE VERTICAL STEEL.** Together with the most recent pledge to the Capital Campaign of our Ladies Philoptochos, we made it to \$1 million and more! That's \$1 million given and pledged since the October 17, 2013 issuance of our building permit—25 years to the day of Loma Prieta. However, we do not stop here. The Campaign continues until we have completed the building and paid it off.

Meanwhile, the deck is now complete. It has been shored up to accommodate the crane that will start putting the vertical, or red-iron, steel. In the March *Herald* we noted the Dean's List (\$100,000 plus) donation of the re-bar steel by Mr. and Mrs. Isidoros Garifalakis of Omega-Industries. (God is, indeed, blessing the rebuilding of the Cathedral!)

Our immediate goal is to get the parking structure up and running, as we complete the building's exterior. Then, we will begin work on the interior, depending upon the success of our fund raising efforts. **We thank you your continued monetary support and we need your prayers.** As noted, all the donors' names (\$1,000 gift minimum) will eventually be inscribed on the dedication wall in the new Cathedral, where prayers will be constantly offered "for the blessed and ever-memorable founders and benefactors of this Holy Church."

**In the Book of Exodus (25:8) God says: "Build me a Sanctuary, and I will appear among you." (Translated from the Septuagint: *Και ποιήσεις μοι ἅγίασμα, καὶ ὀφθήσομαι ἐν ὑμῖν*).** We've quoted this at least since the start of the Campaign, and we are keeping this "immovable before our eyes," as Deut. 6:8 tells us to, as we rebuild the Cathedral to God's glory, to serve our faithful and all God's people in this blessed dynamic heart of San Francisco.



*The Church is here to heal,  
To reconcile,  
To connect with Christ,  
To become partakers of the  
divine glory,  
To worship God,  
To proclaim the Gospel, in the  
original Christian way,  
That the world may be saved.*